

Howard Area Community Center Teen has been selected as winner in the international 2021 RE@CH Media Festival.

Three other Howard Area Teens also named as a Finalists.



NEWS PROVIDED BY
Howard Area Community Center
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Chicago IL, April 20, 2020 – A Teen participant of the Howard Area Community Center was selected as a winner in the international 2021 Global RE@CH Media Festival. Kelley Ellis (Age 16) submitted a digital film project that she worked on all year at her afterschool program known as The Howard Area Clubhouse Teen Arts & Technology Center.

*Kelley Ellis (16), "Power Of A Black Voice"

Category: Documentary Video

This short documentary film is about youth and young adults from Chicago reflecting on their experiences and shows the importance of the black voice.

VIEW FILM HERE: [Power Of A Black Voice](#)

Kelley Ellis (age 16) won the Audience Award in the Documentary Video Category. Her project is called "[Power of a Black Voice](#)" and is about youth and young adults from Chicago reflecting on their experiences and shows the importance of the black voice.

Other entrants in this category included youth from Bogotá - Colombia; Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires - Argentina; Detroit - United States; Benoni - South Africa; Buenos Aires - Argentina; Minneapolis - United States; and Caracas - Venezuela.

INTERVIEW with Kelley Ellis

- Age: 16
- School: DePaul College Prep
- Year: Junior
- Plans for college.
 - Trying to narrow what Universities/College with her school counselor.
 - Loyola Marymount University, University of California Berkley, Spellman, Temple, George Washington University, DePaul University, University of Illinois at Chicago, University of Oregon.
- Major/field of study?
 - Interested in the field of Business.
- THE CLUBHOUSE
 - How long at The Clubhouse?
 - years started in the Summer of 2019.
 - How has The Clubhouse helped you?
 - I learn a lot on developing my skills as filmmaker.
 - What is it like working at The Clubhouse?
 - “I really enjoy the atmosphere of working as team with other youth. For example, I was able to learn a lot about the audio equipment from another youth that was part of film program. I feel the culture of the clubhouse is welcoming and open to adding new ideas and input.”
 - How is virtual CH different from onsite CH?
 - “The virtual experience is very different from onsite. During the virtual clubhouse I had more time individually to grow and focus, which is a good thing.”
- What inspires you in general for your art/ film making?
 - “Ever since I could remember as a kid, I always loved how I can use a camera to express myself.”
- What inspired you to create this piece? (Power of a Black Voice) (POABV)
 - “When I was starting the project, I asked myself, ‘what really matters to me right now?’ After reflecting on the tragedy of George Floyd and Brianna Taylor. It was important for me to have a film that amplifies the voices and experiences of African American teens.”
- Did you feel different before and then after making this piece?
 - “I learned a lot about various experiences of the other youths that were interviewed in the film. I as a filmmaker I look back on past films that I have done and I’m very happy how my current work shows my growth.”
- What film makers/ artists do you like? And why?
 - “Ava DuVernay is my favorite filmmaker. I really like the way she tells stories and educate the audience at the same time.”
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2021 marks the 6th year of the Annual Global RE@CH Media Festival. [The Clubhouse Network's Global RE@CH Media Festival](#) (Revolutionizing Expression at The Clubhouse) is the signature showcase of Clubhouse member-created media from around the world. The Festival encourages youth to express themselves about issues that are important to them by creating media that gives voice to their ideas, feelings, and concerns.

About The Howard Area Clubhouse Teen Arts & Technology Center

The Howard Area Clubhouse provides hands-on learning opportunities for the young people in the greater Rogers Park community through structured and free-exploration of multi-media technology. All programming is free.

Since its inception The Clubhouse has provided a creative and safe afterschool learning environment where thousands of young people (ages 9-18) from under-served communities work with adult mentors to explore their own ideas, develop skills, and build confidence in themselves through the use of technology. In The Clubhouse setting, youth develop STEM-rich projects based on their own interests, designing their own animations; building kinetic sculptures and robots; programming their own computer games; developing their own websites; telling stories through music, art, video production; and more.

About Howard Area Community Center (HACC)

Since 1967, Howard Area Community Center (HACC) has been a primary social service agency serving at-risk children, youth and families living in poverty in the Rogers Park community on Chicago's North Side.

Our commitment to improving the quality of life in the Rogers Park area is embodied in our mission, "to assist low-income individuals and families in the greater Rogers Park and adjacent communities to stabilize their lives and to develop the social skills necessary to become effective community members."

Our mission is founded on the belief that individuals and families in crisis must have access to services and resources to help them build on their inherent strengths and develop self-sufficiency. In order to accomplish this mission, the agency's programs provide emergency intervention, family stabilization, and promote developmental growth.

About Global RE@CH Media Festival

Clubhouse Youth have a history of creating media that speaks to their experiences and comments on the world around them. The Global RE@CH Media Festival gives young people a platform to have their media seen and heard by a wider audience. The Festival helps them build their media creation skills and technical knowledge while encouraging them to participate in the critique and reflection process of media making.

The RE@CH Festival features 7 media categories, with 1 Judges' Selection Winner and 1 Audience Award Winner in each category. The Clubhouse Network selects finalists to be voted on by the general public, as well as the judging panel. Finalists are chosen based on the following criteria:

- Thoughtful consideration of subject matter
- Quality of production
- Creative concept and/or unique approach to addressing an issue
- Strength of message and point of view
- Clarity of message
- Adherence to guidelines

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SOURCE: Howard Area Community Center

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BLACK IS

A KELLEY ELLIS FILM

POWER
OF A
BLACK VOICE

HOWARD AREA CLUBHOUSE PRESENTS A KELLEY ELLIS PRODUCTION IN "POWER OF A BLACK VOICE" INTERVIEWEES: JACARI, BRIA, ABIGAYIL, DAWRYD, ZOELY
MUSIC BY: SAPPHIRE'S "PASSION" MUSIC BY: BELEAF "BLACK JOY IS MAGIC" MUSIC BY: HOMAGE BEATS "20/20" EDITED BY: KELLEY ELLIS PRODUCED BY: KELLEY ELLIS
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: KELLEY ELLIS DIRECTOR: KELLEY ELLIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: KELLEY ELLIS

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